

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

S. 1498

To require the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy to establish the Emerging Technology Standards-Setting Task Force, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 29, 2021

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Mr. PORTMAN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

# A BILL

To require the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy to establish the Emerging Technology Standards-Setting Task Force, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*

## *2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

### **3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4        This Act may be cited as the “Technology Standards  
5 Task Force Act of 2021”

## 6 SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF EMERGING TECHNOLOGY

## 7 STANDARDS-SETTING TASK FORCE

**8 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—**

1                         (1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Office of  
2                         Science and Technology Policy shall establish a task  
3                         force on setting emerging technology standards.

4                         (2) DESIGNATION.—The task force established  
5                         under paragraph (1) shall be known as the “Emerg-  
6                         ing Technology Standards-Setting Task Force” (in  
7                         this section referred to as the “Task Force”).

8                         (b) MEMBERSHIP.—

9                         (1) COMPOSITION.—The Task Force shall be  
10                         composed of members as follows:

11                         (A) The Director.

12                         (B) At least two individuals selected by the  
13                         Secretary of Commerce, one whom—

14                         (i) at least one shall be selected by the  
15                         Secretary to represent the Department of  
16                         Commerce generally; and

17                         (ii) at least one shall be selected by  
18                         the Secretary to represent the National In-  
19                         stitute of Standards and Technology.

20                         (C) At least one individual selected by the  
21                         Secretary of State to represent the Department  
22                         of State.

23                         (D) At least one individual selected by the  
24                         Secretary of Defense to represent the Depart-  
25                         ment of Defense.

(E) At least one individual selected by the Secretary of Energy to represent the Department of Energy.

4 (F) At least one individual selected by the  
5 Secretary of Labor to represent the Department  
6 of Labor.

(G) At least one individual selected by the Secretary of Transportation to represent the Department of Transportation.

(H) At least one individual selected by the Attorney General to represent the Department of Justice.

(2) CHAIRPERSON.—The Chairperson of the Task Force shall be the Director.

18 (c) DUTIES.—

(2) ADDITIONAL DUTIES.—In carrying out paragraph (1), the Task Force shall—

(A) assess which technology standards (such as fifth and sixth generation wireless networking technology and artificial intelligence) have the greatest effect on national security and economic competitiveness;

(B) describe and analyze the ways in which standards setting processes can be misused by governments for protectionist ends and human rights abuses;

(C) establish and execute a strategy to ensure credibility and engagement with international institutions; and

13 (D) develop a list of allies and partners  
14 with which to align with respect to the strategy  
15 to be established and executed under subpara-  
16 graph (B).

17 (d) ENGAGEMENT.—In carrying out the duties of the  
18 Task Force, the Task Force shall engage with academia  
19 and the private sector.

20       (e) STAFF.—The Chairperson of the Task Force may  
21 appoint or delegate an executive director and such other  
22 additional personnel as may be necessary to enable the  
23 Task Force to perform its duties.

